(ख) सरकार ने धुएं के प्रभावों के कारण पर्यावरण और स्वास्थ्य पर कोई विशिष्ट व्यय आबंटन नहीं किया है।

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) उक्त प्रस्ताव को आटोमोटिव रिसर्च एसोसिएशन आफ इंडिया, पुणे, भारतीय पेट्रोलियम संस्थान, देहरादून और वाहन अनुसंधान विकास प्रतिष्ठान, अहमदनगर जैसे सरकार से अनुमोदित आटोमोटिव जांच अभिकरणों के पास उक्त आविष्कार का मानक जांच शर्तों के तहत मूल्यांकन के लिए भेजा गया है। आविष्कारं कर्ता उद्योग लगाने के लिए उद्योग मंत्रालय के तहत आयुक्त, लघु उद्योग के ऋण के लिए भी आवेदन कर सकता है।

Female Literacy Rate

1370. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the magnitude of gender-wise difference in literacy, State-wise;

(b) the factors responsible for the poor female literacy rate; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve female literacy, especially in the Northern and the North-Eastern Regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURSE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) A statement indicating the female and male literacy rates as per Census 1991 is annexed. (*See* below)

(b) Historically, a variety of socio-economic and cultural factors have been found to be responsible for poor female literacy rate. Low enrolment of girls in schools, low retention rate and high drop-out rate are more immediate causes responsible for poor female literacy rate.

(c) The Scheme of Universalisation of Elementary Education, Non-Formal Education for School Dropouts, Total Literacy Campaigns of the National Literacy Mission form the three pronged strategy for increasing female literacy in the county, especially in Northern and North-Eastern regions. In the North-Eastern region where Total Literacy Campaigns have not been launched the Scheme of Rural Functional Literacy Project is under implementation for Adult Education purposes with due stress on coverage of women learners.

STATEMENT

State-wise male and female literacy rates as per 1991 Census

	State/Union Territory	Male Literacy Rate	Female Literacy Rate
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.13	32.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51.45	29.69
3.	Assam	61.87	43.03
4.	Bihar	52.49	22.89
5.	Goa	83.64	67.09
6.	Gujarat	73.13	48.64
7.	Haryana	69.10	40.47
8.	Himachal Pradesh	75.36	52.13
9.	Karnataka	67.26	44.34
10.	Kerala	93.62	86.13
11.	Madhya Pradesh	58.42	28.85
12.	Maharashtra	76.56	52.32
13.	Manipur	71.63	47.60
14.	Meghalaya	53.12	44.85
15.	Mizoram	85.61	78.60

	State/Union Territory	Male Literacy Rate	Female Literacy Rate
16.	Nagaland	67.62	54.75
17.	Orissa	63.09	34.68
18.	Punjab	65.66	50.41
19.	Rajasthan	54.99	20.44
20.	Sikkim	65.74	46.69
21.	Tamil Nadu	73.75	51.33
22.	Tripura	70.58	49.65
23.	Uttar Pradesh	55.73	25.31
24.	West Bengal	67.81	46.56
25.	Delhi	82.01	66.99
Union Territory			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	78.99	65.46
2.	Chandigarh	82.04	72.34
3.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	53.56	26.98
4.	Daman & Diu	82.66	59.40
5.	Lakshadweep	90.18	72.89
6.	Pondicherry	83.68	65.63

Grant of permission for opening colleges in Maharashtra

1371. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of permission, recognition, etc. pending before the UGC, All India Council of Technology, etc. for opening colleges, Institutes, Departments from Maharashtra;

(b) what are the details of these cases;

(c) what are the reasons for keeping these cases pending; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to see that the cases are cleared early.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), proposals of four colleges from Maharashtra for recognition under Section 2(f) and 12-B of the UGC Act are under consideration of the Commission. A list indicating details of these cases is attached as statement. *(see* below)

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has informed that he following proposals from Maharashtra are under consideration of the Council:

Technology & Engg.	— 12
Management	— 20
MCA	— 4

Out of 12 Engineering & Technology proposals, approval to 2 Engineering Colleges (1 at Ratnagiri and 1 at Chandrapur) and 3 Pharmacy Colleges (1 each in Aurangabad, Amravati and Thane) has been accorded.

As regards Management Institutes, AICTE shall have proposals of those institutions processed which are recommended and short-listed by the Government of Maharashtra.

4 Proposals of MCA have already been assessed by the Expert Committees constituted by the Council. Further necessary action will be taken by the Council in the light of recommendations made by the Government of Maharashtra in this behalf.